

## **Guidelines for Syrian Fulbright Student Scholarship Applicants**

You are invited to apply for a J. William Fulbright Student Scholarship to pursue a master's degree at an American university for the academic year beginning in August 2009. Syrian applicants may apply for funding to cover a maximum of two academic years to obtain their master's degree. Fulbright Student Scholarships are fully-funded by the U.S. Department of State and administered by the American Cultural Center.

The grant covers expenses incurred for travel to and from the United States, tuition and books, health coverage, and room and board. No funding is available to meet expenses of Fulbright students' dependents (husbands, wives, children, parents, etc).

### **A. Requirements**

All applicants must have excellent academic records, strong English language skills, outstanding character, and a desire to use skills gained in the United States to serve Syria upon completion of studies in the USA.

#### **Application requirements:**

- Applicants must be Syrian citizens or Palestinians residing in Syria.
- Applicants must currently be living in Syria.
- Applicants must NOT be U.S. citizens or green card holders.
- Applicants must have completed an undergraduate degree at the time of application.
- Applicants must have demonstrated academic excellence within their field of specialization. A minimum GPA of 60% is required.
- All fields of study are eligible **except** for medicine, dentistry, and pharmacy. Applications are accepted for MAs in public health.
- Applicants must have a minimum TOEFL score of 213 (computer-based) or 80 (Internet-based) or 550 (paper-based); click here for the [schedule of tests in Damascus](#).
- Applicants must have satisfied the 2-year residency requirement of any previous J-1 visa

**Deadline: Thursday, May 1, 2008** (*late submissions will not be accepted*)

### **B. Provisions**

- Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted under any circumstances.
- Preference will be given to those applicants who have not studied in the United States previously.
- ALL recipients of a Fulbright student scholarship MUST return to their home country for at least 2 years upon termination of the scholarship, and will not be allowed to re-enter the USA for 2 years, except for tourism or continued studies.

### C. Instructions for Application

- The application must be typed or handwritten with printed letters. Click here to download the [Fulbright 2009-2010 application](#).
- Please answer ALL questions as accurately and completely as possible.
- The two essays, "Future Plans" and "Statement of Purpose," are extremely important parts of the application and should be carefully prepared. The selection committee will review these essays closely.
- Please present the following supporting documents to the American Cultural Center:

1. TOEFL score of at least 550 (paper-based), 213 (computer-based) or 80 (Internet-based).

**Note:** The paper-based institutional TOEFL (known as the ITP) is acceptable at the time of application. The test is available through the American Cultural Center; click here for the [schedule of tests in Damascus](#).

2. **Translations** and the original Arabic copies of high school baccalaureate transcript, undergraduate transcript, undergraduate certificate of graduation, graduate transcript (if any), graduate certificate of graduation (if any), documentation of class rank (if available);
3. Three (3) letters of recommendation from persons familiar with the applicant's academic achievements (in English or Arabic). If possible, please use the [Fulbright letter of recommendation form](#) that it is included with the electronic application and downloadable from the website.
4. CV or resume
5. A copy of the English information page only from the applicant's passport or a copy of the Syrian ID

6. Four recent passport-sized photos with your name written on the back

7. **Optional Submission of Graduate-Level Exam Scores**

- Applicants are not required to submit GRE or GMAT exam results at the time of application. Scores may be submitted if available. However, final selections for the Fulbright scholarship will be made contingent upon successful completion of the requisite exams, with results allowing for placement of the candidate in an appropriate graduate program.
- Applicants for most graduate programs must take the GRE exam.
- Applicants for the Master of Business Administration program (MBA) must take the GMAT exam instead of the GRE, and must have a minimum of two years work experience (by August 2007).
- Click here for the [schedule of tests in Damascus](#).

**The deadline for submission of all Fulbright applications is:  
Thursday, May 1, 2008**

**All applications and the supporting documents must be submitted to the American Cultural Center by this date. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.**

**Office hours are Sunday-Thursday, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm.**

**Interviews will be conducted in June 2008.**

**For additional information about this scholarship or application requirements, please contact the American Cultural Center:**

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